

REMARKS

In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is requested to allow claims 1-7 and 9, the only claims pending and under examination in this application.

In the above amendments, the claims have been amended to clarify various terms in the claims, support for the amendments being found at page 7, lines 20 to 23 and page 14, lines 26 to 31, among other locations in the specification. As the above amendments introduce no new matter, their entry by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

In the advisory action, the rejection of Claims 1-7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 1112, second paragraph was maintained.

With respect to the phrase "catalog microarray" this phrase has been removed from the claims. With respect to the phrase "virtualizing microarray" this phrase describes the system, which is a system that produces a virtual microarray from a physical array. As described in the specification and figures, a virtual microarray is an in silico produced collection of a subset of features of a physical array. The phrase "virtualizing microarray" is employed in the claims as an adjective for the claimed system that produces a virtual microarray from a physical array. as allegedly containing unclear terms, e.g., "catalog array," data physically associated with the array," and "virtualizing microarray."

It is believed that the above amendments to the claims and remarks have overcome the asserted issues and that this rejection may be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

In the advisory action, the Examiner maintained the rejection of Claims 1-6 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. In the above amendment, the claims clearly include:

" (a) a physical microarray comprising:

(i) a number of features, each feature containing a type of probe molecule designed to bind a target molecule..."

As such, it is believed that this rejection may be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone Bret Field at (650) 327-3400.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1078, order number 10020348-1.

Respectfully submitted,

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